



Iceni Newsletter April 2025

Coronavirus Impact Covid-19.

If you wish to join us just follow the link or paste into your browser:-

<https://meet.jit.si/IceniComputerClubMeeting>

and follow instructions to allow camera and microphone access. There is nothing to download or install. We still meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. via Jitsi.org Video Conferencing.

Our Next Meeting: Wednesday 16th April 2025

Computer Surgery Evening – All

This is a chance to iron out those niggling problems with your systems which you can never quite fix. “A problem shared is a problem solved” as they say! You could also mention problems which you’ve managed to fix recently or useful tips.

Our Last Meeting : Wednesday 19th March 2025

Operating System upgrades, Windows, IOS, Ubuntu and Riscos - All

Our next meeting will be our annual revisit of the various Operating Systems we use and updates / new features they may have received.

Ubuntu

Gareth indeed spoke about Ubuntu 25.04 “Plucky Puffin” which is largely becoming more streamlined and gives an enhanced dual boot experience. Although it can be tricky to set up dual booting so you don’t lose Windows. Another interim release, which allows various new features to be tried out before the next LTS release. It uses Gnome 48 as a new desktop and has an improved battery health mode. It uses the Kernel 6.14 and uses Windows Bit Locker disk encryption. Use of Advanced mode is long overdue. If enabled need encryption keys downloading. Wayland is the default display server. Paul said that most people don’t know what the bit locker does and don’t know you have to download the encryption keys. The Ubuntu Core file system allows Snap+ and Flatpack Co-existence. You could always run the latest versions of Libre Office and other software.

The tools were rewritten in RUST. There is a bit locked start and key and can use a USB stick. [Apparently there is time encryption too although I don’t understand what this does. Ed.]

Gareth tried it out choosing more memory in a virtualisation using parallels. He was running it on his Mac so did not want to do a full install. It reported there was a new installer. The installer is itself a snap package so it can update itself and run again. You are given an option to encrypt the disk and passphrase. Uses EXT4. Sets timezone.

Duncan had problems with a date change on downloading his system. He had to change and edit had to use edit in y/m/d format.

Gareth’s install looked very similar to earlier releases. There were 625MB of updates since yesterday. No known backdoors to the system but there were no cloud services now.

Apple

Apple iCloud not ROW. Most Linux versions will choose LTS versions.

Apple is adding ChatGPT image playground. RUST is used to implement more of the system.

Windows

Michael spent most of the time discussing with us the news that Microsoft would be stopping support for Windows 10 in October 2025. In order to upgrade to Windows 11 it is essential to have suitable hardware support which older machines don't possess (like Peter's Toshiba Satellite Core i3 laptop). The only resort short of buying a new machine would be for Peter to upgrade to Ubuntu. The Enterprise version does go a bit further forward. That seems to be just putting off the evil day. It just depends on how important it is to run Windows software. There was an article on how to edit registry keys TPM2 but the article has since been removed. The PC health app will tell you how old the hardware is. They support 8th Generation or newer. You could buy a secondhand 9th or 10th Gen machine. There are likely to be a lot of used machines of say 10th Gen. Coming to market, which would be a cheap solution. The upgrade to Win 11 also requires a new POPCNT instruction; this requirement is not demanded for the IoT version which is still supported until 2032.

For the future Windows 12 might be on the horizon since there have been many updates to Windows 11. 23H2 ends in November 2025.

RISCOS

No RisOS updates mentioned this evening.

ICENI Future programme

2025	Subject	Speaker(s)
16 April	Computer Surgery evening.	All
21 May	AGM and Chrome	All
18 June	Open	

Please note a small change in the programme because Gareth will be away for the April meeting.

We still need a Committee meeting so that that we can determine next year's programme. Any topic suggestions would be useful.

The programme is open to changes as the year unfolds and topics may become more detailed.

MEETINGS WILL NOW BE HELD ONLINE BUT STILL ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED..

Our Website and Email and Jitsi meetings

Our website URL is

<http://icenicomputerclub.org.uk>

Email to: iceni@woolridge.org.uk

The website is where you will find copies of the Newsletter from Previous years and also where you will find our Committee Members and future programme.

I am open to suggestions on what people would like to have included in the website.

JITSI Meetings

I am repeating this here from the top of the document.

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<https://meet.jit.si/IceniComputerClubMeeting> and follow instructions to allow camera and microphone access. We have found some problems with screen sharing on the Mac if using Firefox, but using Safari or Chrome is ok as is using Windows.

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Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. via [Jitsi.org](https://jitsi.org) Video conferencing.

End